

1 **Claims**

2 What is claimed is:

3 Claim 1. A hand operated combination weeding and raking
4 tool comprising:

5 an elongated handle having a longitudinal centerline
6 defining a first axis, a proximal end and a distal end, said
7 proximal end constructed and arranged for gripping, said
8 distal end including a means for cultivating a working
9 surface and a means for grooming said working surface,
10 wherein said handle may be rotated about said first axis to
11 selectively utilize said means for cultivating or said means
12 for grooming, wherein pushing or pulling said elongated
13 handle allows said cultivating means to cut vegetation below
14 said working surface to cultivate said working surface,
15 wherein said grooming means is constructed and arranged to
16 gather said cut vegetation and groom said cultivated working
17 surface.

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19 Claim 2. The combination weeding and raking tool
20 according to claim 1 wherein said means for cultivating
21 includes a metal blade, said metal blade formed generally
22 into a U-shape, said metal blade mounted to said distal end
23 of said elongated handle transverse with respect to said
24 first axis, said metal blade having a first cutting edge and

1 a second cutting edge, wherein said first cutting edge is
2 constructed and arranged to cultivate said working surface
3 during pushing motion of said weeding and raking tool,
4 wherein said second cutting edge is constructed and arranged
5 to cultivate said working surface during pulling motion of
6 said weeding and raking tool.

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8 Claim 3. The combination weeding and raking tool
9 according to claim 2 wherein said U-shaped metal blade
10 includes two upright portions and a bottom portion, said
11 upright portions each including an upper end, said upper ends
12 formed into a ferrule portion, said ferrule portion adapted
13 to cooperate with said second end of said elongated handle
14 for securing said metal blade thereto.

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16 Claim 4. The combination weeding and raking tool
17 according to claim 2 wherein said distal end of said
18 elongated handle includes a ferrule mounted thereon, said
19 ferrule including at least two integrally formed bosses, said
20 integrally formed bosses constructed and arranged to
21 cooperate with said metal blade;

22 wherein said two upright portions of said metal blade
23 each including at least one aperture therethrough, said at
24 least one aperture constructed and arranged to cooperate with

1 said ferrule for attaching said metal blade to said elongated
2 handle.

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4 Claim 5. The combination weeding and raking tool
5 according to claim 4 wherein said ferrule includes at least
6 one stop pin, said stop pin constructed and arranged to
7 cooperate with at least one elongated slot formed in said
8 upright portions of said metal blade;

9 wherein said cooperating at least one stop pin and said
10 at least one elongated slot allow said metal blade to pivot
11 slightly during forward and backward movement of the weeding
12 and raking tool.

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14 Claim 6. The combination weeding and raking tool
15 according to claim 3 wherein said bottom portion of said
16 metal blade is about flat.

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18 Claim 7. The combination weeding and raking tool
19 according to claim 2 wherein said metal blade is oriented at
20 an obtuse angle with respect to said first axis.

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22 Claim 8. The combination weeding and raking tool
23 according to claim 1 wherein said means for grooming includes
24 a rake assembly, said rake assembly including a plurality of

1 tines, said tines having a base end, a center portion and a
2 tip end, said tip end including a hook for gathering cut
3 vegetation and grooming cultivated soil.

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5 Claim 9. The combination weeding and raking tool
6 according to claim 1 wherein said rake assembly is slidably
7 mounted on said first axis and movable between an extended
8 position and a retracted position, wherein said rake assembly
9 extends beyond said cultivation means while in said extended
10 position and wherein said cultivating means extends beyond
11 said rake assembly while in said retracted position.

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13 Claim 10. The combination weeding and raking tool
14 according to claim 8 wherein said rake assembly includes a
15 means for preventing said rake assembly from rotating around
16 said first axis during movement and operation of said rake
17 assembly.

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19 Claim 11. The combination weeding and raking tool
20 according to claim 10 wherein said means for preventing
21 rotation of said rake assembly includes a key, said key
22 constructed and arranged to cooperate with a key-slot
23 extending along said elongated handle.

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1 Claim 12. The combination weeding and raking tool
2 according to claim 8 wherein said rake tines are fixed in
3 position having said tips diverging outwardly.

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5 Claim 13. The combination weeding and raking tool
6 according to claim 8 wherein said rake assembly includes a
7 sliding member and a guide member, said tines having a base
8 end, a center portion and a tip end, wherein said base end is
9 pivotally secured to said sliding member and said center
10 portion extends through said guide member;

11 whereby moving said sliding member toward said distal
12 end of said elongated handle causes said tines to extend and
13 diverge outward and whereby moving said sliding member toward
14 said proximal end of said elongated handle causes said tines
15 to fold and retract.

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